

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An article having photocatalytic activity which comprises a substrate, a first n-type semiconductor film as a primer layer formed over a surface of the substrate, and a photocatalyst film made of an n-type semiconductor and formed on the primer layer, said first n-type semiconductor film as the primer layer (i) having an energy band gap larger than that of said photocatalyst film and (ii) being an oxide semiconductor film consisting ~~essentially~~ of at least one metal oxide selected from the group consisting of niobium oxide and zirconium oxide.

Claim 2 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 1, wherein the photocatalyst film is an oxide semiconductor film comprising titanium oxide.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 1, wherein the primer layer has a thickness of 5 nm or larger.

Claim 5 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 1, wherein the photocatalyst film has a thickness of 30 to 2,000 nm.

Claim 6 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is a transparent glass plate.

Claim 7 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 6, which has, interposed between the glass plate and the primer layer, an alkali diffusion preventive film which serves ^{-inter} to prevent any alkali ingredient contained in the glass from diffusing into the photocatalyst film.]

AMENDMENT

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Claim 8 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 1, which has a hydrophilic film formed on the surface of the photocatalyst film.

Claim 9 (original): The article having photocatalytic activity as claimed in claim 7, which has a hydrophilic film formed on the surface of the photocatalyst film.